

NORTHBROOK, ILL. – With two million Americans evacuated from Hurricane Gustav and Tropical Storm Ike headed into the Caribbean, Congressman Mark Kirk launched a volunteer effort in the 10th Congressional District today to collect supplies for the hundreds of thousands of families impacted by the storm. Approximately 1 million people in Louisiana do not have power. Recent insurance claim estimates put the damage between \$3 billion and \$7 billion, which would place Hurricane Gustav in the top 10 of the most costly hurricanes in U.S. history according to the Insurance Information Institute.

“Gustav damage across the Gulf Coast was heavy,” Congressman Kirk said. “My former colleague in the House, Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal, tells us they are still taking stock of all the damage in the region even as Tropical Storm Ike heads into the Caribbean. As hundreds of thousands of families wait to return to their homes, the 10th Congressional District has joined together to help those in need. The supplies we collect will go to areas in Louisiana hit hardest by the storm. As the rains dissipate, we can help show the best of America by working for a speedy recovery for those affected by Hurricane Gustav.”

Joining Congressman Kirk were members of his Student Leadership Advisory Board, 10th District business partners, including representatives from Takeda Pharmaceuticals, Comcast and Garden Fresh Market. Several 10th District communities also sent police or fire crews to the Gulf Coast, including the Village of Northbrook.



Congressman Kirk, Highland Park Mayor Michael Belsky and 10th District volunteers discuss



Congressman Kirk mobilizes 10th District for hurricane relief supplies and volunteers, including a local business, to help with relief efforts. The supplies are being loaded onto a truck at 707 Skokie Blvd., Suite 200, Skokie, IL 60076.